

# SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

One definition of Social Justice is “*creating a social structure which is more democratic, just, and considerate of individuals from all social stations*”.<sup>1</sup>

Factors such as one’s **race/ethnicity, gender, or class**, may have a distinct impact on the chances of person’s achieving a high paying job, a nice home or car, an excellent education<sup>2</sup>. Your contribution to the agencies participating in your Workplace Giving campaign can help in the move toward Social Justice.

## INCOME

- Females in the US working full time, year round earn, on average, 77% of the salary of the average male worker. In Washington, the figure is a bit lower, at 76%.
- A white non- Hispanic male in the US earns an average salary of \$44,807, a black non- Hispanic male earns \$34,433, an Hispanic male of any race earns \$27,380.

## EDUCATION

- In the US, the median income of women with a bachelor’s degree was \$36,250, while for men with a bachelor’s degree it was \$53,693.
- In King County, 30% of the White population has a bachelor’s degree, compared to 12.6% of the Black population, and 10.8% of the Hispanic population.

## POVERTY

- In 2004 in the US, 13% of all people lived in poverty, and 18.4% of all children under the age of 18.
- In 2004, 798,745 people in Washington state lived in poverty, including 256,202 children under the age of 18.
- Over the last 10 years, there has been a 42% increase in the number of the poor participating in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children program in the state, compared to only a 16% increase in the U.S.

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Social\\_justice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Social_justice)

<sup>2</sup> All information below is from the US Census Bureau, 2005 American FactFinder